

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method of managing patient referrals, comprising:
providing a web site accessible to a plurality of health care providers;
receiving through the web site, a plurality of health care provider registrations each associated
with a health care provider;
receiving a request for a patient consultation from a first health care provider to be performed by
a second health care provider, both the first health care provider and the second health
care provider having a health care provider registration; ~~and~~
notifying the second health care provider of the request for a patient consultation according to a
preferred mode of communication setting set by the second health care provider on the
web site; and
receiving a peer rating from the first health care provider of the second health care provider.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving a response from the
second health care provider accepting or declining the request for a patient consultation.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 2 further comprising scheduling a time for the patient
consultation.

Claim 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Currently amended): The method of claim ~~[[4]]~~1 wherein the peer rating is
anonymous.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): The method of claim ~~[[4]]~~1 wherein the peer rating is
attributed to the first health care provider.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): The method of claim ~~[[4]]~~1 further comprising providing
the peer rating to the second health care provider.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising providing a health care provider profile associated with a health care provider registration.

Claim 9 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the request for patient consultation includes patient demographic data.

Claim 10 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the request for patient consultation includes insurance information.

Claim 11 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the request for patient consultation includes patient contact information.

Claim 12 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the request for patient consultation includes appointment preference information.

Claim 13 (Original): The method of claim 1 further comprising providing information concerning the request for patient consultation to an insurer.

Claim 14 (Original): The method of claim 13 further comprising receiving notification of approval or denial from the insurer.

Claim 15 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of notifying is notifying via email.

Claim 1 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of notifying is notifying via fax.

Claim 17 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the step of notifying is notifying via paging.

Claim 18 (Currently amended): A system for managing patient referrals, comprising:
a web site accessible to a plurality of health care providers;
at least one registration web page within the web site to allow each of the plurality of health care providers to register to become registered health care providers;
an inbox within the web site associated with at least one of the registered health care providers and containing at least one request for a patient consult made to the at least one of the registered health care providers; ~~and~~
an outbox within the web site associated with the at least one of the registered health care providers and containing at least one request for a patient consult made by the at least one of the registered health care providers;
a peer review component for providing feedback related to a patient consult by a consulting health care provider from a referring health care provider;
a mode of communication preference set by a referring health care provider and provided to a consulting health care provider.

Claim 19 (Cancelled)

Claim 20 (Original): The system of claim 18 wherein the at least one registration web page includes a physician registration web page.

Claim 21 (Original): The system of claim 18 wherein the at least one registration web page includes a clinic registration web page.

Claim 22 (Original): The system of claim 18 wherein the at least one registration web page includes a department registration web page.

Claim 23 (Original): The system of claim 18 further comprising a patient registration web page.

Claim 24 (Cancelled)

Claim 25 (Currently amended): A method of managing patient referrals, comprising:
providing a web site accessible to a plurality of health care providers, the plurality of health care
providers including a referring physician and a consulting physician;
receiving a request on the web site from the referring physician for a patient consultation to be
performed by the consulting physician on a patient; ~~and~~
notifying the consulting physician of the request for a patient consultation;
requesting an authorization number for the patient consultation from an insurer providing
insurance to the patient;
wherein the step of notifying the consulting physician is notifying the consulting physician
according to a preferred mode of communications setting set by the consulting physician
on the web site.

Claims 26-27 (Cancelled)